

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This following listing of claims replaces all prior listings or versions thereof:

A. Listing of Claims:

1.-21. (canceled)

22.-31. (withdrawn)

32. (previously presented) A molding installation for forming an optical lens having a substantially circular shape and a substantially regular transversal thickness comprising:

a mixing chamber for preparing a mixture to be molded;

a sealed mold cavity with a substantially circular shape, comprising a center, and a transversal thickness corresponding to that of the lens to be obtained, the mold cavity being limited by two plates between which is inserted an elongated seal, and comprising an entry side provided with a casting opening and an evacuation side opposite to the entry side;

an injection duct connecting the mixing chamber to the mold cavity, the injection duct having an outlet opening;

a spout connecting the outlet opening of the injection duct to the casting opening of the mold cavity;

a filler adapted to force the flow of the mixture from the mixing chamber to the mold cavity via the injection duct and the spout for filling the mold cavity under pressure during use; and

at least a vent on the evacuation side of the mold cavity;

the spout defining a substantially flat space having an axis substantially passing by the center of the mold cavity and being limited by two flat faces and two diverging sides inclined on either side of the axis and tangentially connecting to the circular shape of the mold cavity.

33. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 32, wherein the injection duct is prolonged by a portion extending from the outlet opening up to a closed end, the portion forming a reserve for trapping a first part of the mixture flowing in the injection duct.

34. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 32, wherein the vent provided on the evacuation side of the mold cavity comprises at least an aperture which is small enough to avoid reactants contained in the mixture to flow outside.

35. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 32, wherein the vent provided on the evacuation side of the mold cavity is closed by a removable valve, the valve being open during mold filling and being closed after air evacuation and during the application of a post-injection pressure in the mold cavity.

36. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 32, further comprising a space opening on the evacuation side of the mold cavity and adapted to trap air contained in the mixture, the mold cavity and the space being surrounded by a common continuous seal.

37. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 32, wherein the vent comprises an aperture provided in the seal on the evacuation side of the mold cavity.

38. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 37, the molding installation being adapted for the application of a post-injection pressure in the mold cavity after filling and air evacuation, the pressure compressing the seal and closing the vent during use.

39. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 38, further defined as comprising a plug adapted to close the aperture during use wherein there is slight play for allowing air evacuation during filling of the mold cavity by the injected mixture, and the plug is adapted to expand and close the play due to an increase of the temperature when the mold cavity is filled.

40. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 32, wherein the mold cavity extends along a tilted median plane making an angle different from zero with a horizontal plane and comprises a low entry side and a high evacuation side, wherein the spout is an enlarging spout, and wherein the two flat faces are trapezoidal.

41. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 40, wherein the flat trapezoidal faces of the enlarging spout are substantially parallel to the median plane of the mold cavity.

42. (previously presented) The molding installation of claim 40, wherein the flat trapezoidal faces of the enlarging spout are symmetrically tilted at an angle on either side of the median plane of the mold cavity, and the flat faces slightly converge from the outlet opening of the injection duct to the inlet opening of the mold cavity.